

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
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R 091011Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3051
INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE HELSINKI 2556

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PORG, UNGA, FI, EGEN, ECOSOC
SUBJECT: US VIEWS ON OVERVIEW COMMITTEE: FINNS WANT PETREE TO
BRIEF THEM BEFORE MEETING OF "LIKE-MINDED COUNTRIES"

REF: (A) HELSINKI 2545, (B) HELSINKI 2396 (NOTAL),

1. AT THE SPECIFIC REQUEST OF MFA UNDER SECRETARY PAUL
GUSTAFSSON, WE HAVE AGREED TO INVLUDE IN MINISTER-COUNSELOR
PETREE'S CONSULTATIONS AT THE MFA A SEPARATE AFTERNOON
SESSION FOCUSING ON NORTH/SOUTH ECONOMIC QUESTIONS.

2. AS REPORTED IN REFTTEL B, THE FINNISH MFA IS HOSTING A
MEETING AUGUST 24-25 OF "LIKE-MINDED COUNTRIES" IN WHICH
THE UN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE AND RELATED SUBJECTS
WILL BE A PRINCIPAL ITEM ON THE AGENDA. ATTENDING THE
MEETING WILL BE THE UK, CANADA, BELGIUM, HOLLAND, AUSTRIA,
IRELAND AND THE NORDICS. IT IS A MINISTERIAL-RANK MEETING,
ALTHOUGH MOST COUNTRIES WILL BE REPRESENTED AT THE UNDER
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SECRETARY LEVEL.

3. AMBASSADOR GUSTAFSSON TELEPHONED THE EMBASSY AUGUST 8
TO PROPOSE THE AFTERNOON SESSION OF CONSULTATIONS
AUGUST 23 WITH PETREE ON NORTH/SOUTH QUESTIONS,
STATING THAT SUCH CONSULTATIONS WOULD BE PARTICULARLY
USEFUL INASMUCH AS THEY IMMEDIATELY PRECEDE THE

MEETING OF LIKE-MINDED COUNTRIES. HE SAID THE MFA IS FAMILIAR WITH GENERAL US POSITIONS ON COW ISSUES AND IS GENERALLY SUMPATHETIC TO THEM. HE SAID IT WOULD BE HIGHLY USEFUL FOR THE FINNS TO HEAR FROM MINISTER-COUNSELOR PETREE US POSITIONS IN DETAIL ON A NUMBER OF ISSUES, TACTICAL AND SUBSTANTIVE, RELATED TO THE SEPTEMBER MEETING OF THE OVERVIEW COMMITTEE. SOME OF THE SPECIFIC SUBJECTS ON WHICH GUSTAFSSON SAID THE FINNS HOPE PETREE WILL GIVE US VIEWS ARE THE JAZAIRY PAPER, THE VARIOUS SPECIFIC G-77 PAPERS ON INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND AGRICULTURE, LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, ETC., DEVELOPMENT DECADE NUMBER THREE, AND TACTICS VIS-A-VIS THE G-77 AT THE COW. GUSTAFSSON STATED HE WOULD LIKE TO HEAR US VIEW ON SUCH ISSUES AND RELATED MATTERS IN AS MUCH DETAIL AS POSSIBLE IN ORDER TO ABE ABLE TO INCLUDE THESE VIEWS IN THE MEETING THE FINNS ARE HOSTING THE NEXT DAY.

4. COMMENT: THE JUXTAPOSITION OF PETREE'S VISIT TO HELSINKI ON AUGUST 23 AND THE MEETING THAT THE FINNS ARE HOSTING ON AUGUST 24-25 OFFERS AN EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY FOR THE UNITED STATES TO HAVE ITS VIEWS INCLUDED IN THE DELIBERATIONS OF THE LATTER.
FRY

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